

Hawkwood
South of Gordonsville, off U.S. Rt. 15
Gordonsville vicinity
Louisa County
Virginia

HABS No. VA-36

HABS
VA,
55-GORD.V
9-

PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Addendum to:

Hawkwood
Rt. 15, .4 mile north of intersection
of West Branch of Rt. 617
Gordonsville vicinity
Green Springs Historic District
Louisa County
Virginia

HABS No. VA-36

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
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Department of the Interior
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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Virginia	COUNTY Louisa	TOWN OR VICINITY Gordonsville vicinity; Green Spr Historic District
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Hawkwood (Original Owner - Richard O. Morris)		HABS NO. VA-36
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE None		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Route 15, .4 miles North of Intersection of West Branch of Route 617.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1852-1854 (Richard O. Morris Papers)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Alexander J. Davis (Personal papers & records)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Designed by A. J. Davis, who is widely regarded as the outstanding American designer of country houses in America. Designed at the height of his interest in the Tuscan style, it shows his skill in handling irregular composition and embodies features (cont		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Tuscan Villa		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Stuccoed brick, resting on huge granite blocks; wood joists and floors; metal roof.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Irregular shape; not measured.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Gabled entrance front with a Palladian window over the arched entrance; arcaded veranda; Tuscan tower at the rear. The central block is semi-octagon and has the appearance of a secondary tower. The dramatic lines of the house are intensified by the bold projections of the cantilevered eaves, while differing heights		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) The interior was gutted by fire in 1982. Prior to that date documentation noted high ceilinged (15½') rooms radiating from an octagonal entrance hall through large, well-proportioned archways. A handsome staircase ascended in the tower. Handsome cornices, mouldings and marble		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES A rear addition was added to the main block in 1969 with careful concern not to disturb the architectural qualities of the house.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE The house was a private residence until major fire damage was sustained in 1982.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Among the outbuildings is the "Bachelors Quarters" which served as the original house. It is a rectangular, frame building covered by a gable roof with a central cross gable. The house is highlighted by a scalloped bargeboard eaves and a central arched window in the half story above the second story.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) 1. National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form 2. Virginia Landmarks Register 3. National Register of Historic Places		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Patricia E. Williams, Student, Mary Washington College		DATE April 23, 1985

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

characteristic of his designing. Its arcaded veranda is notable and unique among the surviving Davis villas. Designed as a private dwelling.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (Continued)

and roof shapes provide irregularity and variety.

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (Continued)

mantlepieces adorned the principle rooms.

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001